903. [*Transferred to 27th May, 1990*].

904. [*Transferred to 18th May, 1990*].

Percentage of Visuals Telecast with News by Doordarshan

905. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage of visuals telecast alongwith news by Doordarshan;

(b) what was the exact time when visuals had been shown while telecasting news items against the total news time since 1st December, 1989 till 15th April, 1990; and

(c) what is the comparative percentage for the similar period last year?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) On an average, the National news bulletins of Doordarshan carry visuals for about 45 per cent to 55 per cent of their telecast time.

(b) Visuals were telecast for a total of about 4220 minutes during the period 1-12-1989 and 15-4-1990 which represented about 52 per cent of the total time of 8160 minutes for national news bulletins.

(c) During the same period last year *i.e.* between 1-12-1988 and 15-4-1989, visual were telecast for about 4100 minutes which represented about 50 per cent of the total time of 8160 minutes for National news bulletins.

Explosive used in bomb in Delhi

906. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 104 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 2nd May, 1990 and state whether the explosive used in different bomb blasts in Delhi are the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): This can be known after a report is received from the Central Forensic Science Laboratory.

US Congressman's proposal on solving Kashmir Issue

907. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH:
SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to tate:

(a) whether the US Congressman, Mr. Stephen Solarz, has proposed a conference of US, USSR, Pakistan and India to solve Kashmir issue;

(b) whether Government have lodged any protest with the US Government against internationalising of internal affairs of India; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The US Government has expressed support for India's position that the Kashmir issue should be resolved bilaterally in the spirit of the Simla Agreement.

National promotions of programme cadre of Air

908. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that while notianal promotions have been given to personnel of programme cadre of the A.I.R. and T.V. persons of production have been denied the same benefit;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to bring uniformity among all cadres; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) to (d) It is a fact that some of the regular programme staff members have been given notional promotion in pursuance of the judgement delivered by the Central Administrative Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi in OA-663|86 filed M. P. VERMA and others wherein they were allowed the benefits of ad-hoc service for the purpose for seniority and promotion. The erstwhile production staff (staff artists) are not eligible for notional promotion. However, a number of persons belonging to the erstwhile production cadre have been given promotions in the regular programme cadre on quota basis in accordance with the Recruitment Rules notified on 23.10.1984.

Upgradation of State Highways into national highways in Assam

909. SHRI BHADRESWAR BURAGOHAIN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Assam have sent proposal for upgradation of State-Highways into National Highways;

(b) whether there is any proposal for upgradation of the historic DHODAR ALI into National Highway;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) whether it is likely to be upgraded during 1990-91.

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) During the 7th (1985-90) Plan, the Government of Assam sent the following proposals for declaration as new National Highways:—

(i) North-Salmara-Abhayapuri-Lengtisinga-Langli- Barpeta- Hajo-Amingaon;

(ii) Link road between Tezpur-Jamuguri; and

(iii) Manja - Diphu - Lumding-Haflong-Silchar Road.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

Penalty on Japanese firm by Chairperson Nhava Sheva Port Trust

910. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chairperson of the Nhava Sheva Port Trust, has imposed a penalty of several crores of rupees on a Japanese firm for violation of certain clauses of a contract; if so, what are the facts of the case and the relevant clauses of the contract which have been violated and how;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government has discussions with the Chairperson on waiving the penalty; and

(c) if so, the specific points so discussed and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) Liquidated damages to the extent of Rs. 1.08 crores were levied on the Japanese contractor by Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust, because of delay in completion of the contract in accordance with Clause 47 of the General Conditions of